

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00

SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04

OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00

USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 L-03 H-02 PA-01

PRS-01 INT-05 GSA-01 /132 W  
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R 280515Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6823

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMCONSUL BRISBANE

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASU

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ETRD, AS

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SUBJECT: COPPER: AUSTRALIA TO BECOME ASSOCIATE

MEMBER OF CIPEC

REF: CANBERRA 7165

1. AS PROMISED IN PARA 4 OF REFTTEL, FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESS RELEASE BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS TRADE, FRANK CREAN, ANNOUNCING GOA INTENTION BECOME ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF CIPEC (UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED):

2. QTE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS TRADE, FRANK CREAN, ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED SEEK BECOME ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF COPPER EXPORTING COUNTRIES (CIPEC).

3. QTE MINISTER SAID THAT CIPEC WAS ESTABLISHED IN JUNE 1967 BY GOVERNMENTS OF CHILE, PERU, ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA. AT REGULAR MEETING OF CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF CIPEC IN JUNE 1974, WHICH AUSTRALIA ATTENDED AS OBSERVER, ORGANISATION HAD DECIDED TO ADMIT OTHER COPPER PRODUCING COUNTRIES TO MEMBERSHIP AS EITHER FULL OR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS. AN INVITATION FOR AUSTRALIA TO JOIN THE ORGANISATION HAD BEEN MADE DURING VISIT TO AUSTRALIA IN JUNE OF CHAIRMAN OF CIPEC, AXON SOKO, ZAMBIAN MINISTER FOR MINES.

4. QTE CREAN SAID WORLD COPPER INDUSTRY HAD A LONG HISTORY OF INSTABILITY AND WAS CHARACTERISED BY SEVERE FLUCTUATIONS IN PRODUCTION AND PRICE. WORLD PRICES WERE CURRENTLY AT EXTREMELY DEPRESSED LEVELS AND THIS HAD CREATED SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR COPPER INDUSTRY, ESPECIALLY IN THOSE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH ARE HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON COPPER EXPORTS, BUT ALSO DEVELOPED PRODUCERS LIKE AUSTRALIA. AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY HAD BEEN FORCED TO SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE PRODUCTION AND INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION WAS CONDUCTING AN URGENT ENQUIRY INTO THE QUESTION WHETHER SHORT TERM ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO INDUSTRY.

5. QTE MINISTER NOTED THAT THE DIFFICULTIES FACING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE WORLD COPPER INDUSTRY HAD LED IN RECENT MONTHS TO A GROUNDSWELL OF SUPPORT FOR SOME FORM OF INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO STABILISE THE MARKET. "TO BE EFFECTIVE", THE MINISTER SAID, "SUCH ACTION WOULD NEED THE SUPPORT OF ALL THE MAJOR PRODUCING AND CONSUMING COUNTRIES. IN THE INTERESTS OF THE AUSTRALIAN COPPER INDUSTRY AND THOSE OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRY PRODUCERS, AUSTRALIA WILL SUPPORT THESE MOVES. THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH

AUSTRALIA'S LONG STANDING POLICY OF SUPPORT FOR FULLY  
MULTILATERAL ACTION INVOLVING BOTH PRODUCERS AND  
CONSUMERS ON COMMODITY TRADE PROBLEMS."

6. QTE CREAN POINTED OUT THAT GOVERNMENT'S DECISION  
TO BECOME ASSOCIATED WITH CIPEC ACCORDS WITH GOVERN-  
MENT'S DESIRE TO SEEK CLOSER RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES AND TO COOPERATE WITH OTHER EXPORTERS OF RAW  
MATERIALS.

7. QTE MINISTER CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT HE HOPED THAT  
AUSTRALIA WOULD BE ADMITTED TO ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP OF  
CIPEC AT MEETING OF CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF ORGANISATION  
WHICH WOULD BE HELD AT LIMA COMMENCING ON NOVEMBER 17.  
END QUOTE.

PERCIVAL UNQUOTE  
PERCIVAL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COPPER, MEMBERSHIP  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 CANBERRA 7165  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <28 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COPPER: AUSTRALIA TO BECOME ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF CIPEC  
**TAGS:** EMIN, ETRD, AS, CIPEC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006